

Human Rights Commission Regular Meeting July 14,2021 7:00 pm

Council Chamber | Audrey P. Beck Municipal Building 4 So. Eagleville Road, Mansfield, CT

MINUTES

1. CALL TO ORDER

Mr. Mitoma called the meeting to order at 7:05 pm.

2. ROLL CALL

Present: Evans, Fried (by phone), Lapuk, Mitoma, Nocton, Vaughan (arrival noted below)

Excused: Daggett, Bruder, Lorenz

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

June 9, 2021

Minutes were approved by consensus.

It was agreed by consensus to add an agenda item under Old Business – C. Survey Responses.

4. MEMBER REPORTS

Ms. Nocton reported that Felicia, Derek, (Student Volunteers) and herself started drafting an equity statement, and that she was excited to have the new student volunteers.

Ms. Vaughan arrived at 7:09 pm.

5. OLD BUSINESS

A. Juneteenth Independence Day Update

Mr. Mitoma provided a brief update on the event for Juneteenth Independence Day that took place in front of the Community Center. He also announced that the Community Center was the chosen location for the MLK Mural Project during the event.

Commission members discussed the online access to view the event, that they were happy to have different organizations represented (i.e. Willimantic NAACP, EO Smith, etc.), and that they wished there could be more engagement from Mansfield Public Schools and Region-19.

There was a brief discussion on how to get others more involved in Human Rights events. It was agreed that the Communications and Outreach Subcommittee put together a list of dates important dates/Human Rights days to allow for greater planning.

B. MLK Mural Project

Mr. Mitoma provided a brief update on the MLK Mural Project. He is scheduled to speak with the Rise Up Board on Friday July 16, 2021 to discuss the next steps. The Communications and Outreach group was tasked with discussing the next two events associated with the project: The Community Paint Day and Unveiling of the Mural.

C. Survey Responses

Commission members discussed the survey responses. The Town Charge Subcommittee will be looking further into the survey responses, running crosstabs, etc.

Based on the survey responses there was a concern regarding affordable Housing. It was agreed by consensus that Ms. Fried and one of the new Student Volunteers, Derek Cameron, will be reaching out to the Planning Department for further information.

6. NEW BUSINESS

A. Welcome Student Volunteers

The Commission welcomed its first Student Volunteers, Derek Cameron, and Felicia Famularo.

7. COMMUNICATIONS

A. A. Stinson Letter

8. REPORTS OF SUBCOMMITTEES

A. Town Charge

Mr. Mitoma reported that they have been waiting on the survey to come back and that they will be working on analysis at their next meeting.

B. Communications and Outreach Ms. Fried briefly discussed the speaker series that she has proposed.

9. OPPORTUNITY FOR PUBLIC COMMENT

None.

10. ADJOURNMENT

Meeting was adjourned by consensus at 8:49 pm.